

3.19 IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

This section evaluates whether the Project would result in a commitment of or loss of resources. One example might be the construction of a regional shopping center over a coal resource that would make the coal inaccessible. Another might be the use of a renewable resource in a way that prevents renewal.

Energy and materials would be consumed for facilities and construction. Some of these materials, such as steel and other metals, would be recycled at the end of their useful life, the others may be considered irretrievable. Wind is an infinitely renewable energy source, thus during operation of the Project there would be no irretrievable loss of nonrenewable fuel as there would be in the operation of a natural gas electric generation facility.